STEP2

Hanging by a Thread For Being Too Irresistible?!

The Honest Life of a Game Studio Chapter 13

ゲーム屋BL(上)

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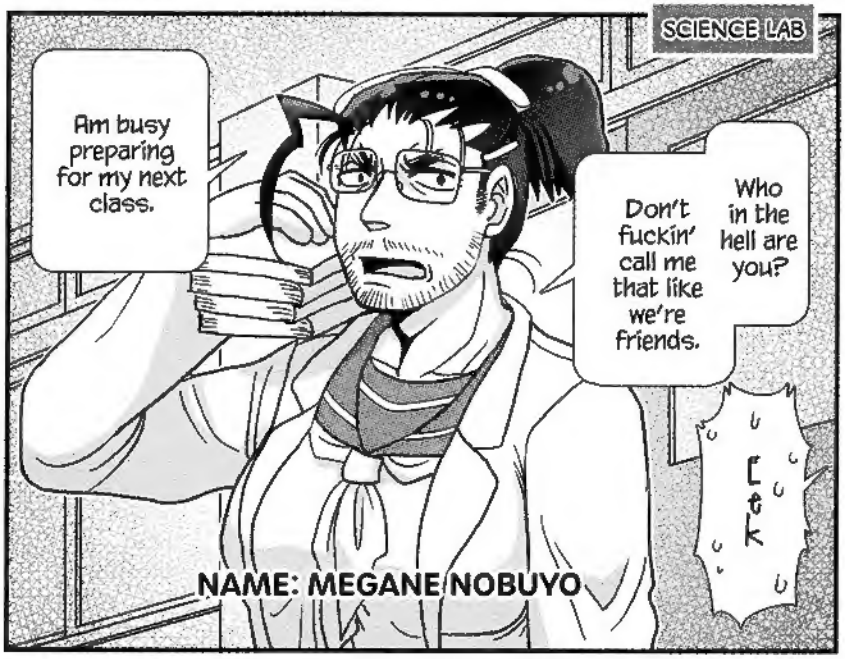
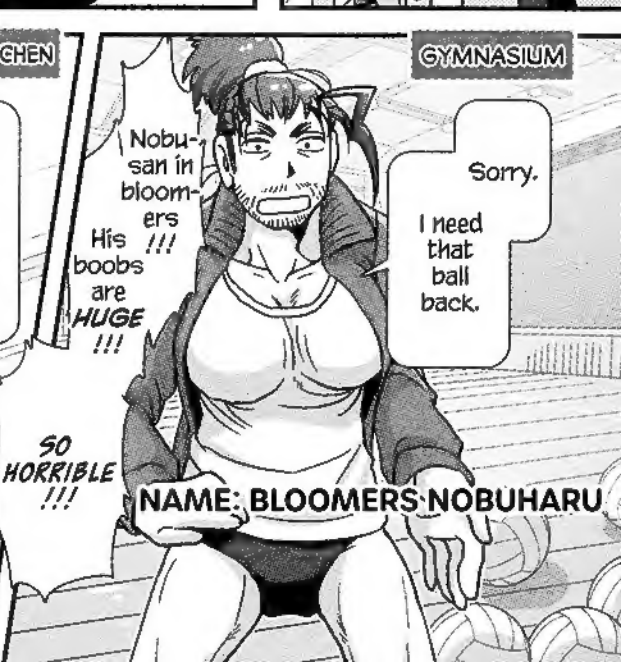


Note: Glasses Girl.



Something tells me I'm not gonna like this flag...
Hm?
The sound of a piano...
-sigh- I miss the normal Nobu-san...
pant は
pant は
pant は

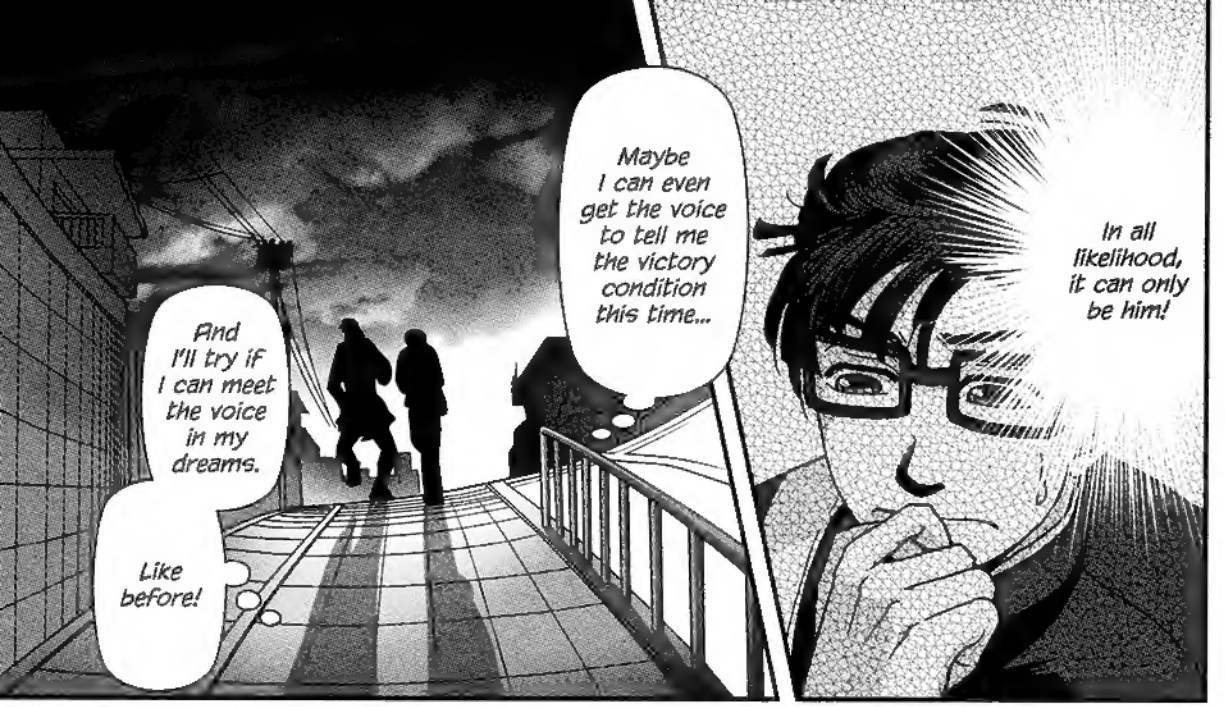
MUSIC ROOM
Uwah...
I cannot play ze piano if you don't stay quiet, monsieur.
NAME: PIANO NOBLE

Am I dead?
Am I crazy?
How far is the game taking this with inserting Nobu-san?

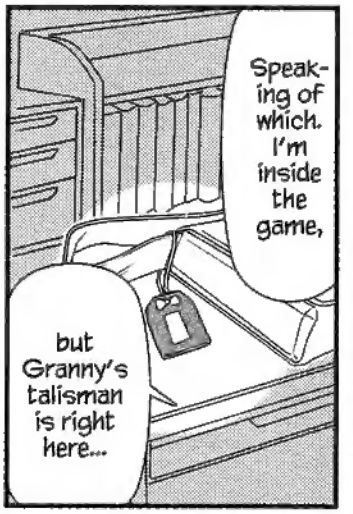
So it's this morning's prediction.
The profile of the girls you met got added to my journal.
Girls...?
All that shock took a lot out of me.
...Looks like the encounter events are more or less done...

DING キーン
DONG コーン

That this and the other Nobu-sans...
Well, it's easy ta tell 'em apart, so there's that.
...act like they are only NPCs...
Journal
But I'm sure of it...
ちら glance
I know!
They suck, ya know.
... Their names ...
But giving them names as soon as you meet is too unreasonable!
Journal
But this time, Nobu-san has none.
Wah-So HUG
my memories of the real world were intact...
I was an NPC in the previous game. However,
The cryptic voice...!
Cryptic Voice
"...Anan Naoyashi...
AH.
Or, is it a "third-party" intervention...?
ゴキン SMACK
Did he take a blow at the wrong place which screwed with his memory?


In all likelihood, it can only be him!
Maybe I can even get the voice to tell me the victory condition this time...
And I'll try if I can meet the voice in my dreams.
Like before!

As I thought. They are related, huh.


Speaking of which. I'm inside the game,
but Granny's talisman is right here...

Hmm...

Talisman-sama,
please tell me how to get out of this game.

The cryptic voice!
Finally. You called for me.

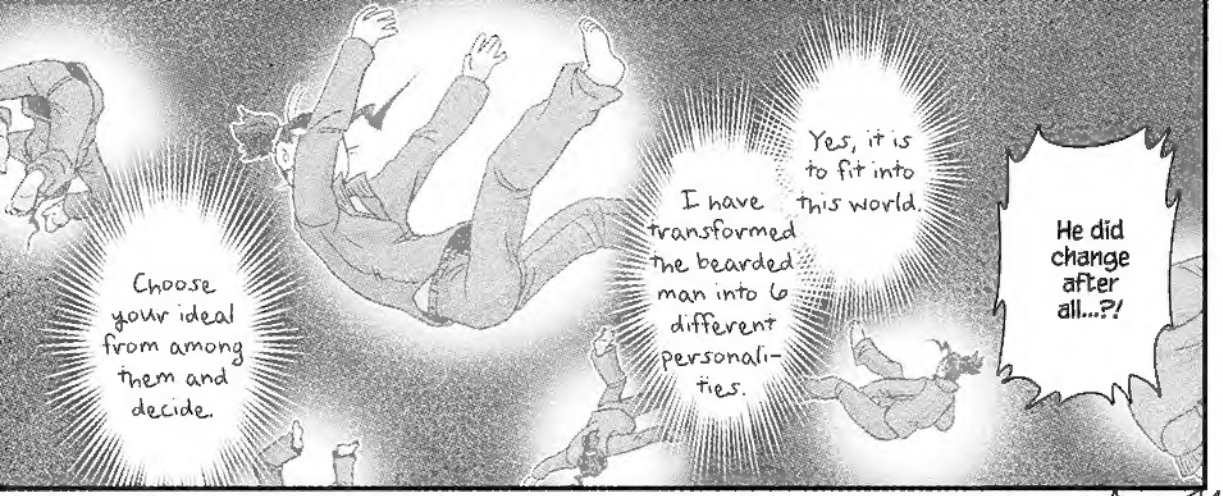
...Anan Naoy-oshi...
...Anan Naoy-oshi...
JUMP!
がばっ
HE'S HERE!

...So it's like that.
You're Talisman-sama?
Fufu... Are you having fun?
Have you decided on your ideal partner?

No, no!
That's NOT my wish!
Like, a gender-swapped Nobu-san is absurd!
Besides, isn't it pointless to grant my wish inside of a game?

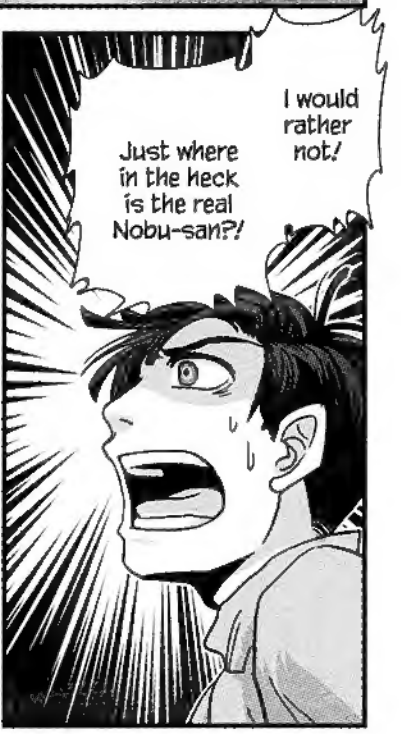
...No. I'm a little confused.
What... did you say...?
But I even made it easier to have your wish granted.
The graphics are way too harsh...

Never fear.
Am I not a god? Am I not a god of good match?
His phrasing is getting slightly annoying...
It is of no trouble to transform your partner as you desire it in the real world.


Choose your ideal from among them and decide.
I have transformed the bearded man into 6 different personalities.
Yes, it is to fit into this world.
He did change after all...?!

I am doing what is best for your sake.
You do what is best for you as well...
HUUHH ?!
RIPPLE

But all the bearded men are real?
I merely sealed his memory of reality
as it will interfere with your choice.
That's ...!


I would rather not!
Just where in the heck is the real Nobu-san?!

Hold on, please. How do we get out of this game?
All will end once you choose.
You have only one chance...
Put some thought into who you'll go for...
How do I restore him...?!

If ya live the rest of yer life all sloppy,
No one's gonna be interested in you, ya know?
Aah!
That was a boomerang to the real Nobu-san!
トン thk
トン thk
トン thk

Anan, it's morning, buddy.
chirp チュン
chirp チュン

Learn ta get up by yerself already.
Y-yeah...
He says that, but he still wakes me up every day...
swoon swoon
ぎゅん ぎゅん

Oh, and ta trigger the confession event on the last day...
Guess so.
Um... so this game.
I can't finish it if there's no love confession, right?

Did you say "BFF meter"?
HUP
Ya have ta raise the "BFF meter" on top of the "love meter".

Yesterday's dream with Talisman-sama...
Maybe it's pointless to tell it to this Nobu-san since
he's merely an NPC.
Nobu-san...

"Love meter" is the parameter with the playing character,

while the "BFF meter" is between the girls.

LOVEY-DOVEY

LOVE CON-FESSION EVENT!

BFFS!

If the girl with the high-est "love meter"

ain't the one with the highest "BFF meter",

the confession event won't trigger.

This is the game's shitty, tiresome-as-fuck system.

...There's still a part of him

that's very him, huh.

He's an NPC, but he's still paying attention to the gameplay...

It's why I have to think this over by myself.

How to get out of the game...

and how to get the real Nobu-san back...

Right now, the girl with the highest love meter is ME.

squeeze

squeeze

Too close Too close

This Nobu-san is reliable in explaining the system,

but he is still an NPC.

Yeah. You can always count on me!

You sure do know everything, Nobu-san!

But, this is the loneliest and scariest it's ever been.

It's not even a world where mistakes can kill you, unlike before.

Because it's not a game he made.

Nobu-san's presence in this game is dubious.

All because...

GASP

What IF

I go with "I choose no one?"

...But...

I like the pushiness..

it'll be the childhood friend Nobu-san...

guoh

guoh

MATH III

You have only one chance...

So he's saying I can't restart...

It sounds like I can choose whoever. Though, if I have to pick favorites,

Um.
If I don't choose anyone, what kind of ending will I get?
Hm...
Basically, it's not possible to not choose anyone but...
wipe
Right.
If I do that, then Talisman-sama will have to give up, right...?
In order to prove that the real Nobu-san is great,
I should use brute force!
There is an exception. The "Friendship End".
Be lovey-dovey with all the girls
and at the same time, all the girls are BFFs with each other.
Girls...
...Only in this instance
will the option for a "Friendship End" appear.
THAT'S IT!!!

CHERRY BLOSSOM VIEWING DATE WITH TRANSFER STUDENT

to raise the favorability rating with every character.

So slow.

Sorry to keep you waiting.

Trigger the events one after the other

AFTER-SCHOOL STUDY SESSION FOR A TEST

I can't restart the game.

An intellectual Nobu-san's nice, too...

I only get one chance.

UWAH

Then I can get my hands on the Friendship End with the final love confession event!

UNEXPECTED RUN-IN IN THE BATH LUCKY PERVERT

SLAM

ズデーン

To prove the fact that the real Nobu-san is great.

I'd prefer that over Talisman-sama forcing his Nobu-sans on me.

To make him understand. I'll brute force my way.

No matter how many times I've seen the Nearly Naked Nobu-san Event, it's still AWFUL

SAMPLING A HOMEMADE CAKE

I'm actually very glad to spend my time with the Nobu-sans.

Here, eat it!

Even though I know they're different from the real one,

Why a maid getup?

AT A TOURNAMENT LUCKY PERVERT

bazoongas

...However, as you'd expect from a gal game,

there are montages everywhere.

GORGEOUS NIGHT PARTY

After all,

I haven't been able to spend at least this much time with the real Nobu-san.

Armpit hair!

I think it's a crappy game,

but I feel happy to the point that it's frustrating.

SUMMER FIREWORKS FESTIVAL

So,

it should be okay to have a tiny bit of fun...

Oooh, amazing.

祭

Note: Fan says "Festival."

COPY OF NOBU-SAN'S JOURNAL
But their love meters are all equally up.
I wonder if this strat will solidify the Friendship End?
Phew

EXHAUSTED
ぐったり…
It's been almost 3 months, but I'm still drowning in events.
Is it 'cause a 1-year time frame is short?

Ah... That's right...
Ya have ta raise the "BFF meter" on top of the "love meter".

I should ask the NPC Nobu-san later.
Oi.
You there!

It's a girl-exclusive parameter.
I still haven't learned about the BFF meter.
Like... how do I change it?
I wonder if it means that the girls hanging with each other will form friendships?
sigh
はー

あわわわ
panic
Huh
Wait--
Is this... No way!
The hell?
I've always been looking after him.
ピキ
TICKED
Yer wannabe wife ways are fuckin' annoying, ya goody-two-shoes.
Just how long are ya gonna keep flirting with Anan?
SLAM
Ya got no right ta complain ta me, Transfer Student.
RUMBLE
The breakout of the fight events...?!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

PIANO NOBU-SAN VS MEGANE NOBU-SAN

FRILLS NOBU-SAN VS BLOOMERS NOBU-SAN

TODAY'S FORTUNE
"TERRIBLE LUCK"
PROBLEMS WITH PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

WONK WONK WOOONK

That's harsh, buddy!

You're part of the problem, too, Nobu-san!

My luck even took a turn for the worse...

...Haa aaah...

My stomache hurts...

sigh

I need to offer money for the exorcism ...

Fork out a good sum.

It'll slow down the decline of the BFF meter.

I'M AWARE.
It'll be easier ta see the girl ya have yer eyes on alone.
That's how you'd usually play gal games, isn't it?
It'll get worse. And if they're through as friends, ya won't be able ta mend it anymore.
Eeeeeeek
If ya raise all the girl's love meters up,
they'll start fighting each other over you.
LOVE HEXAGON
BATTLE ROYAL
...the sooner we get rid of the others,
the sooner we can whittle it down to just me.
PUSH
Hya ?!
What will it be, Anan?
Goin' forward this way...
Hmmmm
So, I'm not gonna get the Friendship End if I can't surpass this?
That'll definitely be hard.
Or maybe ...
PAT
Take the convo events frequently ta raise the BFF meter.
SUPER HARD!!
...is gonna be a fuckin' pain, but you can mend all the girl's friendships.

あわわわわわわ
So very panicked
Aaah, a pushy Nobu-san's sooo hot, though.
B-
But
Even so,
I'd like to be on good terms with everyone...
So...
No way. I can't believe he's on the offensive at such a place!
Eek!
(The real) Nobu-san, HELP!
Oh, no. I don't think I'd mind to be overpowered like this.
Are ya okay, Anan?!
The school zone ain't for gettin' it all up in someone's business.
You damn slut.
... Y'ass-hole ...
GUOH!
WHAM
EEK

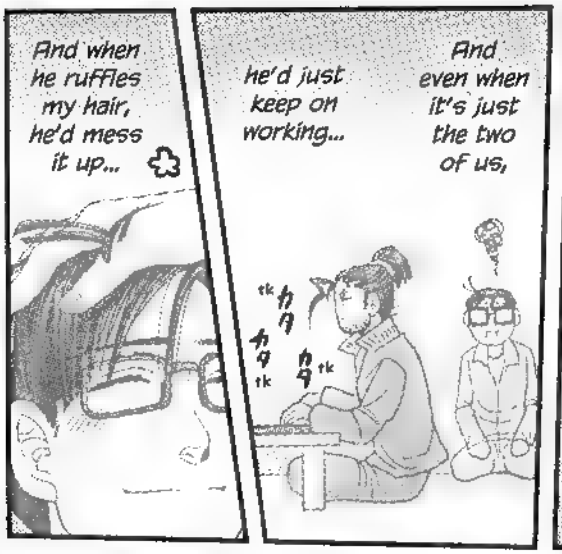
HA! Don't say such crude words with that lovely face.
S-s-s-s-safe...!
I'll pay ya back with the exact same shit.
Oh, it's on, ya little shit!
I'm gonna break yer most important bits!

It's hard to raise the love meter and stuff when they're fighting.
And even harder with 6 pissed off Nobu-sans.

All of the Nobu-sans speak and act like Nobu-san,
but they're different from the real one.
It's like little by little,
the Nobu-sans are adapting stereotypical moe character traits.

The real Nobu-san
wouldn't shout even when he's angry.
He won't fight like some delinquent. He's a quiet person...

So, with the fight events breaking out,
the romance events get canceled.
Ahh, I'm getting anxious.


And when he ruffles my hair, he'd mess it up...

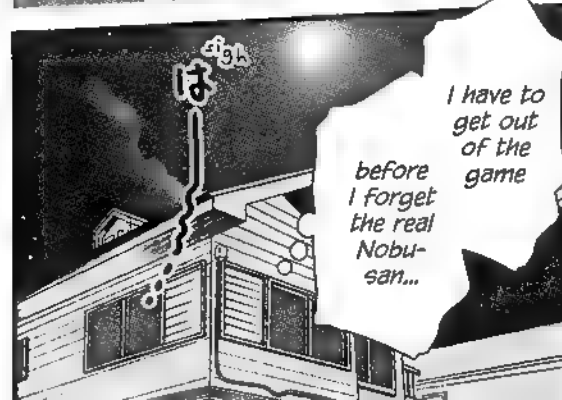
he'd just keep on working...
And even when it's just the two of us,
カタ
カタ
カタ
カタ

ぐぅぉぉぉ
And he doesn't take a bath when he's busy with work so he smells kinda funky.

The real Nobu-san is a workaholic and a game addict...

I want to see him...
...and hug him with all my might and make him ruffle my hair.
.....
I miss the Nobu-san who's not wearing a sailor costume.

But
That time the pushy Nobu-san was...


sigh
はぁ
I have to get out of the game
before I forget the real Nobu-san...

Danger! DANGER!
TWIST
ばた
TWIST
ばた
TWIST
ばた

HEXAGRAM OF HELL

BUT I TOTALLY MESSED UP ON *ALL* THE 3 CHOICES!

I TRIGGERED THE RECONCILE EVENT,

Wah

All you did was create a total hellscape so...

※ HE ASSUMED REACTIONS AND RESPONSE BASED ON THE REAL NOBU-SAN.

In the end...

DING DONG キーン コーン

It's finally happening...

HUUUUH?!

And drawn by lot, the boy we're scrambling for will be Anan~!

ANAN

I'm so lost!

Huh? What?

clap clap clap clap clap clap

...So, the highlight of our school festival is... by unanimous vote, an *"Inter-class Boys Scramble"~!*

SCHOOL FESTIVAL / THE VERY DAY

10,000-YEN WORTH OF SCHOOL FESTIVAL MEAL TICKETS!

THE WINNING GROUP WILL GET

cheers cheers cheers

WE CALL THIS *THE CAMPUS BOY HUNT!*

FOR THIS COMPETITION, EACH CLASS IS ASSIGNED A GROUP WITH AN ELECTED FEMALE FAST RUNNER THAT WILL HUNT [redacted] LONE GUY...

DOYOMEKI SCHOOL FESTIVAL

cheers

Note: The slogans at the back are cheers for the students' respective classes.

パタン
tchk
00 10
AFTER A 10-MINUTE HANDI-CAP...
たっ tap
たっ tap
たっ tap
WE ASKED HIM TO HIDE IN A SPECIAL STAGE.
FIRST OFF, ANAN-KUN FROM THE PREY SIDE WILL GET A HEAD-START!
BAM
BAM
BAM
PI
PIII!
THE GIRLS' HUNTING TEAM CAN START!
In this so-called mini-game,
a girl will win if I get captured within 30 minutes.
cheers
cheers
However, the instant the winner is declared,
All the girls will break their friendship with the winning girl and a certain flag will be raised...
A special flag if you fail the mini-game...
PISSED
PISSED

It ain't as innocent as ya think.

?

Maybe with an adventure game. Anyhow, I doubt that can happen in a training type of game.

No way. Even though you say that, this is just a dating gal game...

The flag is called "Murderous intent"!!

ガーン SHOCK

THE DAY BEFORE

Such and such

JUST GOT BRIEFED ABOUT THE EVENT.

When that flag is raised, a girl will meet her end, killed by the other girls.

Eek

She gets buried in the campus and be counted as missing. It's the Depression End.

Ah!

DASH

There he is!

...for me to outrun them for 30 minutes!

This proposal MUST be scrapped...

THINK AGAIN.

Did ya think no one can die in a gal game?

[Note: "Nice boat" is a meme. Google for more info.]

...That is...

However, there is one way to deal with this booby trap of an event.

I'm fairly sure I'd die if this was an ero game, though.

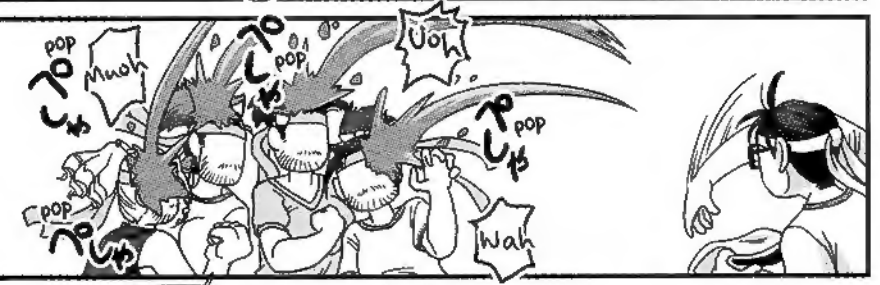
ゴソ gssk

ゴソ gssk

6 PAINT-BALLS!
WHOOSH
Any girl (Nobu-san) I hit with one will lose their hunting privilege!
so I've been given a privilege!
I can't just run away while I'm outnumbered,
SLIDE
BURST
Bwah!
I can avoid the hell that is the Depression End.
If I get all 6 of them to be lordless samurais...
And paintball throwing was drilled into me
SPLAT
Gwah!
If I survive this,
by a certain hunting game!
My technique of dodging enemies was perfected in the horror game...
Uoh?!

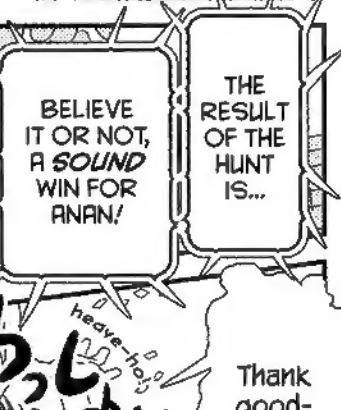
CREEP
I'm trapped ...!
What now? I've got nowhere to run.
CREEP
My victory!...
BLOCK
?!
I shouldn't have thought I could beat them.
I should've tried my best hiding for 30 minutes...
My strategy was a mistake ...!
SMACK

creep
creep
もぞ
もぞ
...
...
...
He's mine, ya piece o' shit
Take yer hands off my Anan


pop
Muuh
pop
Uoh
pop
pop
Wah

Huh?

ROOOAR
IT IS A MIRACLE!
WE JUST WITNESSED A MIRACLE!


BELIEVE IT OR NOT, A *SOUND* WIN FOR ANAN!
THE RESULT OF THE HUNT IS...

Ya did a really great job.

heave-ho!
わっしょい
Thank goodness, it's aaaaall *OVER!*
わっしょい
heave-ho!

I thought ya weren't gonna make it.
Not bad, Anan.
Ha ha ha
I know I'm involved, but it feels like someone else's problem...

After this, no matter if ya play favorites, whatever you do,
the girls ain't gonna fight.
YAAAY BANZAAAI...

So, You've turned yer misfortune in yer favor.
The school festival had all the girls be "best friends forever."

The confession after the graduation ceremony.
Wow... So boilerplate.
They say you'll gain happiness if ya confess in front of the legendary statue.
What, a blatant rip-off...

Also, yer free ta do what ya want until the last event.
The last event?
squish

スコー
snooze
Yer sleeping upside down.
...Yer very tired, huh.

Whoever ya chose, their objections...

The girls are gonna confess to ya,
but the choice will be yours.

I'm taking yer glasses off, too.

ばっさあ
FLAP
There ya go.
Well, you can get a good night's rest today.

chimu
ちむ

ふにゃふにゃ
smoosh

Hey, Anan.
You were damned cool today.
pinch
むにぐ

I think I could get it on with that Nobu-san!!!

It was all bittersweet. I'm so embarrassed I could dieee

What's the big idea with the gap moe?!

Even though he's been aggroing on me nonstop,

a mere peck got him turning bright red!!

TWIST ばた

TWIST ばた

TWIST ばた